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Borough of Tamworth



ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Senior Public Health Inspector

For the Year Ended 31st December, 1957.

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
9, LADY BANK,
TAMWORTH.**

Tamworth Herald Co., Ltd., Printers.



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**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
9, LADY BANK,
TAMWORTH.**

Borough of Tamworth

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

ALDERMAN F. W. MORGAN, M.B.E., Chairman.

COUNCILLOR J. T. BETTERIDGE, Vice-Chairman.

ALDERMAN E. A. COURTS
(Mayor)

ALDERMAN H. V. POWELL

ALDERMAN R. M. TURNER

COUNCILLOR F. A. ALLSOPP COUNCILLOR B. BROWN

„ E. COLLINS

„ M. T. A. MATTHEWS

„ K. MUGLESTON

„ MRS. N. FRENCH

COUNCILLOR F. A. WOOD

Medical Officer of Health :

A. FARNILL MORGAN, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H

Senior Public Health Inspector :

H. BIRCHWOOD, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.,

Cert. Insp. of Meat and Foods.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

G. E. WEBB, C.S.I.B.,

(Commenced November, 1957)

Health Visitors and School Nurses :

MISS E. M. E. HAGSTROM, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

MRS. W. CLEMENTS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Tamworth**

Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the state of the Public Health in the Borough of Tamworth for the year 1957.

The Birth Rate was 13.6 and the Death Rate 13.9.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 38.4 whilst there were no deaths attributable to childbirth.

An outbreak of Measles affecting 94 children occurred during the year but school closure did not become necessary.

Seven cases of Poliomyelitis were notified. In each instance prompt action was taken by the Public Health Department to limit the spread of infection in the Borough.

The pandemic of Asian Influenza which swept the country in the Autumn reached Tamworth in September and continued throughout that and the following month.

The disease affected many persons and was responsible for a great deal of absenteeism.

In the majority of cases the infection was mild but an appreciable number of severe cases occurred and the disease was responsible for three deaths.

Twelve houses were demolished during the year. These houses were contained in the following Orders.

	No. of Houses
Tamworth (Lower Gungate)	
Clearance Order, 1956 	4
Tamworth (Church Street)	
Compulsory Purchase Order, 1956 ...	8
	<hr/>
Total	12
	<hr/>

Two houses—6 and 8, Lower Gungate, were dealt with under Section II of the Act—Demolition Orders made.

The following houses—7, Brewery Lane, and 5, Lichfield Street, were being dealt with under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957.

Towards the end of the year 68 dwellings, to be erected on the Lichfield Street site, were allocated for slum clearance purposes.

In connection with the above details of properties were submitted to the Health Committee with a view to representations being made at the appropriate time.

I would again thank members and officials of the Council for their continued help and co-operation and will now proceed with my Report.

A. FARNILL MORGAN,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1957.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	2,678
Registrar General's estimate of resident population	...					13,350
(Census, 1951)	...	...	...	...		12,889
(Census, 1931)	...	...	...	...		11,711
(Census, 1921)	...	...	...	...		8,032
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1957) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...		4,204
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1951)	...					3,688
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1931)	...					2,785
Persons per Acre	...	...	...	...		4.9
Rateable Value—December, 1957	...					£153,938
Product of 1d. Rate—December, 1957	...					£620

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births—		Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	179	95	84
Illegitimate	...	3	1	2
		<u>182</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>86</u>

Birth Rate 13.6.

Still Births—		Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	5	4	1
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
		<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Population37

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births ... 26.7

Deaths from all Causes		Total.	Male.	Female.
		186	100	86
Death Rate per 1,000 Population		...	...	13.9

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age		Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	7	5	2
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
		<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>

Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks of Age		Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	3	3	—
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
		<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>—</u>

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age

All Infants per 1,000 live births38.4

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live
births39.1

CAUSES OF DEATH

			Male.	Female.
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	3	—
Tuberculosis, other	...	...	—	—
Syphilitic disease	...	...	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—
Meningoccal infections	...	...	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—
Measles	...	...	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	...	...	4	3
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	3	1
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	...	...	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	...	...	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	13	10
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	—	—
Diabetes	...	...	1	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	9	21
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	13	8
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	3	—
Other heart disease	...	...	11	16
Other circulatory disease	...	...	4	4
Influenza	...	...	3	2
Pneumonia	...	...	1	4
Bronchitis	...	...	13	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	3	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	...	...	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	1	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	2	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	—	—
Congenital malformations	...	...	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	8	8
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	2	—
All other accidents	...	...	—	—
Suicide	...	...	1	1
Homicide and operations of war	...	...	—	—
			—	—
Totals, all causes	...	...	<u>100</u>	<u>86</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases notified together with the age groups.
INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1957.

Disease	Total cases at all ages	Total Cases Notified										Total Deaths	Cases admitted to Hospital
		Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 60	60 and over
Smallpox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	4	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	..
Pneumonia	9	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis Lethargica	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	1	..	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis	7	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	5	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	94	1	13	10	11	10	46	2	..	1	..	..	..
Meningococcal Infection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Food Poisoning	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	120	6	14	10	13	12	54	3	1	2	1	3	1
													—

FOOD POISONING

Food Poisoning Notifications (corrected) returned to R.G. :

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
—	1	—	—
Total, 1.			

Outbreaks due to Identified Agents :

Total outbreaks, Nil.

Total Cases, 1.

Outbreaks of Undiscovered Cause :

Total outbreaks, Nil.

Total Cases, Nil.

Single Cases :

Agent identified, Nil. Unknown causes, 1. Total, 1.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Primary injections :

Boosters : (all ages)

Under 5 ... 145

68

5 to 14 ... 3

Number of children immunised as at 31st December, 1957.

Last course of
injections given

A. Since 1953

B. 1953 or earlier

Under 1 year	5 to 14
516	1,057
—	917

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1957.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M		M	F	M	
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-25	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
45-55	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	4	3	—	—	3	—	—	—
	7		—		3		—	

HOUSING

The following table gives details of the Council's post-war housing programmes.

	Fazeley Road				Amington Road				Gillway						Bolehall Estate	
	Allo- cated		Com- pleted		Allo- cated		Com- pleted		Allo- cated		Com- pleted				No. of Flats (Allocated)	No. of Flats (Completed)
	No. of Houses	No. of Dwellings	No. of Houses	No. of Dwellings	No. of Houses	No. of Dwellings	No. of Houses	No. of Dwellings	No. of Houses	No. of Flats	No. of Dwellings	No. of Houses	No. of Flats	No. of Dwellings		
1947	48	66	31	42	40	52	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1948	30	40	17	24	36	52	18	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1949	48	60	2	2	—	—	58	78	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1950	84	84	54	76	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1951	—	—	106	106	—	—	—	—	118	28	146	—	—	—	—	—
1952	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	152	4	156	102	12	114	—	—
1953	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	74	28	102	168	24	192	—	—
1954	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	44	56	100	68	24	92	—	—
1955	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	43	86	—	—
1956	6	6	6	6	—	—	—	—	7	14	21	17	13	30	12	—
1957	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	4	11	—	—
	216	256	216	256	76	104	76	104	395	130	525	395	130	525	12	

Housing Applications :

List at 1st January, 1957—

	House- holders.	Lodgers.	Total.
Applicants residing in the Borough	132	310	442
Applicants residing outside Borough	173	221	394
	<u>305</u>	<u>531</u>	<u>836</u>

List at 31st December, 1957—

Applicants residing in the Borough	165	355	520
Applicants residing outside Borough	190	270	460
	<u>355</u>	<u>625</u>	<u>980</u>

HOSPITALS

All hospitals in the Borough are included in the Lichfield, Sutton Coldfield and Tamworth Group under the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board and are as follows :—

Tamworth General Hospital.
St. Editha's Hospital.
Tamworth Isolation Hospital.

MATERNITY ACCOMMODATION

No maternity accommodation is provided at the Hospitals in the Borough.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES

These are under the County Council (except Tuberculosis and Orthopædic Clinics) since the 5th July, 1948.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held twice weekly.

A School Clinic is held weekly.

An Ante-Natal Clinic is held weekly.

Eye Clinics are held fortnightly.

Dental Clinics are held weekly for expectant and nursing mothers, toddlers and school children.

An Orthopædic Clinic is held weekly at the College Lane Schools.

A Chest Clinic is held at St. Editha's Hospital.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

An ambulance is stationed at Tamworth and is available during the daytime. The Lichfield ambulance is available at all other times.

WATER SUPPLY

Source of Supply.—Well and bore hole at Hopwas Pumping Station. South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

Gallons Pumped during 1957. — 184,872,000 Gallons.
Received from South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, 112,899,000

Well.—Highest, 4ft. 8in. ; Lowest, 1ft.

Treatment Before Distribution.—The supply is chlorinated en route to the high level reservoir at Hopwas, and the bulk supply from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company is chlorinated at source.

All dwelling houses in the Borough have a piped supply, either direct into the house or by means of standpipes.

Approximate number of houses supplied :—

(a) Direct to houses				Population
4,190	...	...	...	13,274
(b) By means of Standpipes				
24	...	...	...	76

Rainfall.—The Rainfall for the year 1957 was 22.94in.

With the assistance of the bulk supply from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, it was possible to give a continuous supply to all consumers throughout the year, at pressures ranging from 30lbs. to 80lbs.

During the year, 12 samples of water have been obtained by the Health Department from domestic supplies in various parts of the Borough and submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination.

The results were satisfactory. The water is not plumbo solvent. There is a fairly high degree of hardness.

OPEN-AIR SWIMMING BATHS

Routine samples were taken during the summer months when the baths were open. Bacteriological analyses were all satisfactory. " Break-point " chlorination was used.

These baths are a very valuable health asset to the Borough and are well patronised.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the Health
Committee.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I herewith present my Annual Report for the year 1957.

Difficulty was experienced in filling the vacancy of Additional Public Health Inspector, a period of over one year elapsing, and it was not until November that Mr. G. E. Webb took up his duties. In consequence of which it was only possible for me to cope with the general day to day happenings of the Department. An increase in the number of animals slaughtered also entailed additional meat inspection duties.

This increase in the killings was due to a butcher carrying on a wholesale business and Sunday and late night slaughtering took place throughout the year making Sunday and evening inspections necessary.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The number of types of closet accommodation existing at the end of the year is as follows—

No. of Houses	No. of Privies	No. of Pails	No. of Water Closets	Per cent. Dry	Per cent. Water Closets
4,204	6	36	4,931	0.86	99.14

The privy and pail type of closet are in the rural parts of the Borough where no sewer is available.

There are approximately 20 premises served by a system of drainage discharging to cesspools.

INSPECTIONS.

The following statement shows the number of visits and inspections to various classes of premises.

Visits and Inspections	Number
Inspection of drains of old property	28
Other inspections of existing property	296
To work in progress	384
,, test drains and sanitary fittings	12
,, premises re infectious diseases	20
,, tuberculous cases	4
,, respecting disinfection	16
,, cowsheds, dairies and milkshops	38
,, bakehouses	42
,, slaughterhouses	596
,, manure steads	4
,, factories	39
,, outworkers' premises	8
,, shops re Shops Acts	67
,, ,, re Meat Regulations	52
,, food inspection	246
,, offensive trades	4
Miscellaneous visits	92
Housing Acts	164
Caravans	62
Rodent Control	145
	2,319

COMPLAINTS.

Nature of Complaint	Number Received
Choked passage drain	10
„ slopstone waste pipe	6
„ water closet	34
„ yard drain	8
Defective water closet basin	10
„ dust bin	146
„ wall and ceiling plaster	54
„ house roof	48
„ windows	34
„ kitchen sink	8
„ cooking range	24
„ floors	16
„ doors and frames	18
„ wash-houses and washing coppers ..	17
„ yard surface	3
„ walls	28
„ gutters	83
„ drains	4
Dampness of house	78
Accumulation of refuse	4
Dirty house	4
General insanitary conditions	3
House infested with vermin	5
Nuisance from keeping animals	4
Accumulation of manure	4
Rat infested premises	72
Emission of smoke	22
Miscellaneous	42
	<hr/> 789

To secure the abatement of these defective conditions,
125 informal notices were served.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

17

Premises	Number on Register	Number of			Occupiers prosecuted
		Inspections	Written notices		
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	14	14	—		—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	94	52	4		—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—		—
Total ...	108	66	4		—
Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	6	6	—	6	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	6	6	—	6	—

Eight persons were returned as Outworkers under the Act, and these were engaged on wearing apparel. Visits were made and in each case the home conditions were considered suitable.

THE RENT ACT, 1957

This Act came into operation on the 6th July, 1957.

The provisions allow for the increase, within limits, of rents of houses remaining in control and machinery for dealing with repairs.

After a notice of increase in rent has been served, the tenant may serve a notice on his landlord specifying the defects which he thinks should be remedied. The landlord has six weeks in which to do the work or give an undertaking that the work will be done. If he does neither of these things the tenant may apply to the local authority for a certificate of disrepair in relation to the defects specified in his notice to the landlord.

Period 6th July to 31st December, 1957

1. Number of applications for certificates	...	35
2. Number of decisions not to issue certificates	...	—
3. Number of decisions to issue certificates:		
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	...	31
(b) in respect of all defects	... ..	4
4. Number of undertakings given by landlords		25
5. Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority	... ..	—
6. Number of certificates issued	... ..	5

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955.

There are twenty-three butchers' shops, six bakehouses and thirty-four food preparing premises in the Borough.

Unfortunately it was not possible, due to staff difficulties, to continue with a systematic survey of all these premises but it is hoped in the near future to continue the survey.

Forty-six premises were visited and in twelve instances hot water supplies and sinks were necessary and in due course provided.

DAIRY FARMS, DAIRIES, RETAIL

PURVEYORS OF MILK

Cowkeepers	...	...	...	10
Dairies	...	...	...	4
Retail Purveyors	...	...	...	12

The Borough of Tamworth is included in a Specified Area and all dairymen who retail milk in the Borough must sell milk under special designation. The special designations authorised to be sold are "Pasteurised," "Sterilised" and "Tuberculin Tested."

One dairy is licensed to pasteurise milk and the principle adopted is by the "Holder" method. The other retailers obtain their supplies pasteurised and bottled from wholesalers.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

An employee of the Council is trained and engaged in part-time rodent control work.

One hundred and forty-five inspections were made and seventy-two premises were found to be infested. The facilities provided by the Council were made available to the owners or occupiers and the infestations were successfully treated by pre-baiting and poisoning.

Half-yearly treatment of the sewers and periodical treatment of the Council's refuse disposal tip has been carried out.

SANITARY SUPERVISION OF PLACES OF AMUSEMENT

The cinemas and other places of entertainment have been periodically inspected with regard to the sanitary accommodation.

The managements have been found anxious to maintain the conveniences in a satisfactory condition, and any defects found have at once been remedied.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924-1935

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933-1954

There are six licensed slaughterhouses in the Borough and the following animals have been killed:—

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1956	... 1,106	175	4,053	5,303
1957	... 1,662	70	5,409	4,980

During routine inspection, four cases of localised *Cysticercus Bovis* were found. The organs were condemned and the carcasses subjected to refrigeration in accordance with the recommendations.

Carcases Slaughtered and Examined

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Cow/ Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
1956 Number killed	464	115	527	175	4053	5303
1957 Number killed	605	128	929	70	5409	4980
Number Inspected ...	605	128	929	70	5409	4980
Diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	5	—	2	6	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	42	29	124	—	153	216
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	7.0	26.5	13.3	2.8	2.9	4.4
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	28	27	34	—	—	71
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	4.6	22.0	3.6	—	—	1.5
Cysticercus Bovis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	2	1	—	—	—
Submitted to refri- geration ...	1	2	1	—	—	—
Generalised & totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE SHOWING CARCASSES CONDEMNED AND DISEASED CONDITIONS.

Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Disease	Weight in lbs.
			3	Generalised Tuberculosis	... 604
		4	3	Septicæmia	... 350
1		1	2	Emaciation	... 420
3				Johnnes Disease	... 970
1				Oedema	... 310
	1			Immature	... 35
		1		Jaundice	... 90
			1	Uræmia	... 280
	1			Peritonitis	... 40
5	2	6	9		3,099

Organs Condemned					Weight in lbs.
Cattle	...	...	...	...	3,605
Calves	...	...	...	...	—
Sheep	...	...	...	...	81
Pigs	...	...	...	...	676
					<hr/> 4,362
Whole and part carcasses	...	...	...	...	3,099
Other Foods	...	...	...	...	1,266
Total amount condemned	...	...	...	...	<hr/>8,727 <hr/>

= 3 tons 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 19 lbs.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. BIRCHWOOD,

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

